

A STUDY ON ENFORCED DISAPPEARANCES IN BAIXADA FLUMINENSE (RIO DE JANEIRO): CRIMINAL DYNAMICS, STATE PLOTS AND MOTHERS' MOBILIZATION

Abstract

This work proposal will be carried out in conjunction with the research that has already been done by UFRRJ and Fórum Grita Baixada since 2021 on forced disappearances in the municipalities that belong to Baixada Fluminense- RJ. The theme became more evident in the public scene with the establishment of the military regimes in Latin American countries, including Brazil, especially after the denunciation of political violence that produced countless deaths and disappearances in the region. The research focused on the most recent period of our history, analyzing the last 5 years (2016-2020). After the democratic transition, Rio de Janeiro experienced an increase in police violence against the civilian population, increased police commitment to organized crime, as well as the growth of criminality - ordered in different Factions (drug trafficking) and Militias (armed groups with territorial control that "sell" security). With this scenario, the practice of forced disappearance has gained several configurations and has become part of the repertoire of the urban violence language. Today there is no legislation in force in the Brazilian legal system that defines forced disappearance as a crime, being found only as a criminal type in the field of international law. Therefore there is no normative operation in the daily life of Brazilian police stations in this category. In this research we used different qualitative and quantitative methodologies to understand and identify enforced disappearances in the researched region, such as: official data from the public security secretariat, reports forwarded to "Disque Denúncia", reports from mothers and family members, reports in newspapers and social networks. What the data show us so far indicates a complexity to understand the phenomenon within the criminal dynamics of the researched municipalities. The plots involve police involved in crime, territorial disputes between factions that carry out retail drug trafficking, and territorial expansion of the Militias that, under the argument of selling more security to the population, bring terror and control over the territory and local economy. In this sense, mothers and relatives of missing persons do not count on the support of the police (Military and Civil) to register and investigate the occurrences; and need, on their own, to carry out their investigations and search for the missing person, traveling through territories, interviewing people and facing crime. Finally, we seek to continue our research and identify the social, political and institutional processes under which the information and the investigations about the forced disappearance in Baixada Fluminense are processed through the follow-up of the research.